

Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:NEA/PAB:JCOON

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:RCASTRODALE

NEA:AGLASPIE

-----128184 090414Z/11

R 090351Z JUN 78 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2503

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T STATE 146505

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 5206 SENT ACTION SECSTATE JUN 01.

QUOTE S E C R E T TEHRAN 5206

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, TECH, US,FR,PK

SUBJ: REPROCESSING ISSUE

REF: (A) STATE 136685, (B) ISLAMABAD 5321

1. AS OUR POLICY WITH RESPECT PAKISTAN BEGINS DEVELOP CONSTRUCTIVE MOMENTUM, REFTELS HAVE TOUCHED UPON ROLE WHICH IRAN CAN BE EXPECTED TO PLAY IN THIS EFFORT. THE SHAH WILL NATURALLY WELCOME BOTH THE DECISION BY THE FRENCH TO CANCEL THE REPROCESSING PLANT AND THE PROPOSAL BY THE U.S. TO INCREASE ASSISTANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SPHERE.

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2. TO MAKE MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF THIS SITUATION, I WOULD SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

(A) LETTER TO SHAH FROM THE PRESIDENT IN RESPONSE SHAH'S LETTER OF MAY 8. IN THIS RESPONSE, THE PRESIDENT COULD NOT ONLY LAY OUT OUR INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT AID PROGRAMS FOR PAKISTAN, BUT ALSO INCLUDE ART HUMMEL'S POINT (REF B) ABOUT ENLISTING SHAH'S

ASSISTANCE IN CONTAINING PAKISTAN REACTION TO FRENCH
CANCELLATION OF REPROCESSING PLANT.

(B) DAVE NEWSOM SHOULD PLAN TO VISIT TEHRAN FOR CONSUL-
TATIONS WITH THE SHAH BEFORE RPT BEFORE HE GOEST TO ISLAMABAD.

I NOTE THAT HE WILL BE IN PARIS NEXT WEEK FOR THE AFRICA
CONFERENCE AND ASSUME HE WILL MOVE EASTWARD FROM THERE. IT
WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DATE CAN BE FIXED SOONEST FOR HIS VISIT
HERE BECAUSE SHAH'S CALENDAR IS BECOMING CROWDED WITH STREAM
OF OFFICIAL AND STATE VISITORS OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. IT
WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR DAVE TO HAVE A GOOD, SUBSTANTIVE MEETING
WITH SHAH AND I WOULD LIKE TO BLOCK OUT AN AUDIENCE AS SOON
AS I CAN.

(C) SOME ACTIVE CONSULTATION BY THE FRENCH WITH THE SHAH
IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE A CERTAIN MEASURE OF WESTERN COLLABORA-
TION ON THIS SUBJECT. SINCE I AM NOT CERTAIN HOW MUCH MY FRENCH
COLLEAGUE IN TEHRAN IS CLUED INTO THIS ACTION, I HAVE BEEN
UNABLE DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH HIM.

3. REF B HAS ALSO RAISED THE POSSIBILITY THAT IRAN MIGHT AID
IN THE PAKISTAN MILITARY SUPPLY EFFORT BY TRANSFERRING SOME
F-5-E AIRCRAFT. I FEEL THAT WE MUST MOVE WITH CONSIDERABLE
CAUTION ON THIS POINT. IN MY JUDGEMENT, THE SHAH WOULD DECLINE
TO CONSIDER THIS TRANSFER UNLESS AND UNTIL HE HAS FIRM CON-
GRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF HIS ADDITIONAL F-14 AND F-16 AIRCRAFT
BUYS. EVEN THEN, HE MAY BE RELUCTANT TO PART WITH F-5-E
AIRCRAFT UNTIL THE F-14 AND F-16 PLANES ARE ACTUALLY IN
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HAND IN IRAN. THEREFORE, IF DAVE NEWSOM IS TO RAISE THIS
SUGGESTION, IT WILL HAVE TO BE ON A CONTINGENT BASIS AND
WILL HAVE TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY FIRM ASSURANCES THAT THE
ADMINISTRATION ACCEPTS AND WILL ENDORSE TO THE CONGRESS
THE FULL NUMBER OF F-14 AND F-16 AIRCRAFT. THE SHAH WISHES
TO BUY. IN ADDITION, WE MUST EXPECT HIM TO INCLUDE THE
WILD WEASEL AIRCRAFT IN THIS SAME CATEGORY.

4. FINALLY, THE SHAH WILL NEED TO KNOW HOW WE EXPECT TO
BRING SAUDI ARABIA INTO THIS CONCERTED PROGRAM. HE IS IN
SOME MEASURE SUSPICIOUS OF SAUDI INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO
PAKISTAN. HE FEELS THEIR AID HAS BEEN SUBTLY CONDITIONED
UPON THE DE-SECULARIZATION OF PAKISTAN AND THE INTRODUCTION
OF STRICT ISLAMIC CODES WHICH INVOLVE RETROGRESSIVE PRACTICES
SUCH AS CUTTING OFF HANDS AND PUBLIC LASHINGS. HE FEELS THIS
RESURGENCE OF "BACKWARD ISLAM" HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE TROUBLES
HE IS CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING WITH THE LOCAL ULEMA. IT WOULD
BE IMPORTANT TO KNOW, THEREFORE, WHETHER SAUDI ARABIA WILL
MERELY BE ENCOURAGED TO INCREASE LARGESSE TO PAKISTAN INDE-
PENDENTLY OR WHETHER IT WILL BE BROUGHT INTO HARNESS IN A
JOINT AID EFFORT LED BY THE UNITED STATES.

5. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO PASS THIS CABLE TO PARIS,
JIDDA AND ISLAMABAD.
SULLIVAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, CONTRACTS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decapton Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE146505
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/PAB:JCOON
Enclosure: REPEAT TEHRAN 5206
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N780005-0401
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780675/aaaacmr.b.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 20c8428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 78 STATE 136685, 78 ISLAMABAD 5321
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2412817
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPROCESSING ISSUE
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, US, FR, PK
To: PARIS JIDDA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/20c8428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014